From:	Lauren Dezenski
To:	Nicholas Salerno
Subject:	POLITICO Massachusetts Playbook: More on mid-year BUDGET fixes today -- Compassionate release for DiMASI? -- McGEE staying out of MassDems chair race
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By Lauren Dezenski (ldezenski@politico.com; @laurendezenski)

HAPPY FRIDAY, MASSACHUSETTS. Filing this morning from New York, where I saw Hamilton (!) last night.

TODAY -- Transportation For Massachusetts releases its report on what the technology revolution means for Massachusetts following an event and panel discussion at District Hall in the Seaport morning -- State Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry, Sen. Ed Markey, and Brian Concannon, Jr., executive director of Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti at the State House at 1 p.m. -- Regional labor leaders tour the Block Island wind farm in Rhode Island.

IT'S COMING -- "Baker considering midyear budget moves," by Andy Metzger, State House News Service: "With a deadline looming on Saturday, Gov. Charlie Baker on Thursday said over the next couple of days he will discuss whether the state budget matches revenue projections and whether any corrective measures are necessary." ...

"Fresh from a vacation in Ireland, Baker said the administration would have more to say about the budget picture on Friday." ...

"The governor and Secretary of Administration and Finance Kristen Lepore have until Saturday to affirm or adjust the estimate of revenues available to fund the current fiscal year budget." ...

"Revenues are closely tracking the estimate that lawmakers used to build the budget that Baker signed in July. In the first two months of the fiscal year, revenues lagged significantly but bounced back in September to within $11 million of revenue benchmarks." ...

"The governor indicated the budget might be out of alignment even if revenue benchmarks are met." **READ ON --** http://bit.ly/2eeS9eE

Have a tip, story, suggestion, birthday, anniversary, new job, or any other nugget for the Playbook? Did the wrong Playbook get sent out? Get in touch: ldezenski@politico.com.

CLEMENCY FILE -- "Prosecutors ask for Sal DiMasi's early release," by Milton J. Valencia, Boston Globe: "In a remarkable turnaround, federal prosecutors have asked a federal judge to release former House Speaker Salvatore F. DiMasi from prison, five years after he was sentenced for political corruption, under the Department of Justice's compassionate release program." http://bit.ly/2eeQbeg

SERIOUSLY SCHILLING -- "'You're On Your Own': FBN Host Stunned by Curt Schilling Defending Lewd Trump Remark," by Josh Feldman, Mediaite: "Schilling argued to Regan today, 'How many times have you looked at a young man and said 'Wow, he's a beautiful young man' or 'Wow he's a gorgeous young man'?' ... Regan said, 'Zero.'

Schilling called that a 'lie' because, he insisted, 'there's no way you haven't seen somebody else's son and said 'Wow, he's beautiful.' ... Regan responded, "And thought I oughta be dating him? No, sorry You're on your own on this one.'" http://bit.ly/2ewGeMs

WALKING THE LINE -- "Rosenberg praises Baker, declines to give guv political advice," by Andy Metzger, State House News Service: "Senate President Stan Rosenberg on Thursday declined to join a call by the state's most prominent Democrat for the Republican governor to take a firmer stand against the Republican presidential nominee. ... 'The governor's got a very full plate running the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I don't give him political advice, and he'll do what he thinks is right in terms of his work within his party,' Rosenberg, an Amherst Democrat, told Boston Herald Radio on Thursday." http://bit.ly/2eeQLsA

KEIKO STANDS BY TRUMP -- "Orrall stands by Trump after latest controversies," by Andy Metzger, State House News Service: ""I'm supporting the Republican nominee," Orrall, a state representative, told the News Service Thursday morning, later affirming with greater specificity, "I'm endorsing Donald Trump' ... Asked if the recent news about Trump has given her pause, Orrall said, 'I don't condone things that have come out.'" http://bit.ly/2eeTTof

DATELINE PATS NATION -- "No flag on the play for Tom Brady in sticking with his pal Donald Trump," by Bill Speros, Boston Herald: "Instead, Brady took the "easy" way out and dared not condemn the man who publicly stood by him during the Deflategate scam well after Robert Kraft gave up his fight. ... By not joining the chorus line ripping into Trump, Brady put himself at far more public peril." http://bit.ly/2eeUt5k

DATELINE WELLESLEY **-- "Chelsea Clinton: Donald Trump is normalizing hate speech," by Shira Schoenberg, Springfield Republican**: "'I never thought I would see the almost normalization of hate speech that we have witnessed in this election - the misogyny, the racism, the homophobia, the Islamophobia, the jingoism, the rhetoric against Americans with disabilities, the rhetoric against our veterans, the demeaning of a Gold Star family,' Chelsea Clinton said." http://bit.ly/2eeXbYv

MCGEE STANDS WITH NO ONE -- "Party chair not endorsing in race to succeed him," by Antonio Caban, State House News Service: "'I'm not taking a position. Right now there's three good candidates. I think it would be presumptuous of me to tell the committee members who they should chose as the next party chair,' McGee told the News Service following a Wednesday rally outside Faneuil Hall." http://bit.ly/2eeUdmO

GET IT TOGETHER, FOLKS -- "Massachusetts' Democracy Is Showing Signs Of Weakness," by Steve Koczela, WBUR: "The state's weakening democratic foundation will likely be hidden next month by relatively high voter turnout. But when you get into the voting booth, look at how few of the contests on your ballot feature more than one candidate, and you will see one of the problems." http://wbur.fm/2eeTmmo

STAN STANDS WITH TRANS LAW -- "Senate prez: Transgender rights bill will stand up to challenges," by Jordan Graham, Boston Herald: "'The Commonwealth is not going to fall into the ocean. This law is in place in more than 17 other jurisdictions, and there's no problem with it,' Rosenberg told 'Morning Meeting' hosts Jaclyn Cashman and Hillary Chabot. 'It's going to be a repeat of what happened with same-sex marriage, which is two years after it started they were trying to repeal it on the ballot, but there were no problems, the

Commonwealth did not fall into the ocean, there was widespread acceptance that it was the right thing to do.'" http://bit.ly/2ewJMyb

DATELINE PICKET LINE -- "Striking Dining Services Union Launches Online Fundraiser," by Brandon J. Dixon, Harvard Crimson: "Citing Harvard's $35.7 billion endowment, UNITE HERE Local 26-the Boston-based union representing Harvard's dining services workers-called on supporters to donate to the union's "Strike Assistance Fund," which will provide for necessities like groceries, diapers, and workers' utility bills, according to the fundraiser's website." http://bit.ly/2eeY03v

WOOD WAR -- Herald: "A GRATEFUL CITY" **-- Globe:** "Trump saying he's smeared by lies," "No warning, then barrage of shots," "US asks judge to release DiMasi," "Obama says words about women cut to her core," "Get sick, get well, win yourself a Nobel."

THE LATEST OUT OF EASTIE -- "After East Boston gun battle, two officers remain in the hospital," by Evan Allen, Laura Crimaldi, Steve Annear, John R. Ellement, and Jan Ransom, Boston Globe: "Two Boston police officers wounded in a "ferocious firefight" with a heavily armed man in East Boston Wednesday night remained in critical condition Thursday, according to officials, as details emerged about the shooter, a Boston constable who claimed to be an elite security expert but was not licensed to carry a gun." http://bit.ly/2eeUNkO

MORE ON THE SHOOTER -- "Shooting suspect had troubled past," by Matt Stout, Boston Herald: "The body-armor-clad East Boston man gunned down after police said he opened fire on cops at his apartment had a history replete with multiple aliases, criminal charges and accusations of violence, according to a raft of court records and other public documents." http://bit.ly/2eeTUsc

DROUGHT WATCH -- "Drought persists, but levels downgraded in some parts of state," by Colin A. Young, State House News Service: "Thanks to much-needed rainfall in the southeast part of the state -- Plymouth got 2.22 inches of rain on Sunday alone, according to the National Weather Service -- the Monitor moved Plymouth and Bristol counties from the 'extreme' drought category and into the "severe" drought classification. ... Cape Cod was downgraded from 'severe' to 'moderate' drought and Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket were moved to the least serious category of "abnormally dry.'" http://bit.ly/2eeRKZN

WINTER IS COMING -- "Winter Heating Costs Likely To Increase," by Rebecca Hersher, WBUR: "The yearly winter fuels outlook report from the U.S. Energy Information Administration finds higher fuel prices and a colder weather forecast than last year will add up to an increase in heating costs." http://bit.ly/2eeWu1E

ENERGY MATTERS -- "Mount Tom Solar Farm in Holyoke to stand as 'landmark' for ENGIE North America: CEO Frank Demaille," by Mike Plaisance, Springfield Republican: "The $10 million, 17,000-panel solar farm that will occupy property formerly dominated by a coal-burning plant represents an old-world-to-new-world transformation for ENGIE North America, CEO Frank Demaille said here today." http://bit.ly/2eeVwCe

FOLLOWING WARREN'S LEAD -- "Lawmakers join Elizabeth Warren's call for US to 'step in' on illegal Airbnb hotels," by Sam Levin, The Guardian US: "A coalition of American lawmakers, including leaders from New York, San Francisco, Seattle, St Louis and Portland, urged the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) on Thursday to 'help cities to protect

consumers' and 'study the extent to which the [short-term rental] industry is facilitating commercial operations.'" http://bit.ly/2ewJ4kB

TRAVEL FILE -- "Worcester airport gets $7.7M for taxiway, lighting improvements," by the Worcester Telegram staff: "The Worcester Regional Airport will receive $7.7 Million from the federal government to support taxiway construction and to continue work to grow the facility and increase its capacity to serve Central Massachusetts travelers, U.S. Rep. James P. McGovern's announced Thursday." http://bit.ly/2dgBfdy

GANTRYWATCH -- "Razing the tollbooths at Exit 1: Demolition to be '24/7 accelerated project,'" by Clarence Fanto, Berkshire Eagle: "Under an 'accelerated, very aggressive' timetable set by the state Department of Transportation, the first major phase of Massachusetts Turnpike toll plaza demolition is targeted for completion on Nov. 22, just ahead of the heavily traveled Thanksgiving holiday." http://bit.ly/2eyQZgY

EDUCATION MATTERS -- "Springfield Diocese to close last Catholic high school in Berkshires," by Anne-Gerard Flynn, Springfield Republican: "The last remaining Catholic high school in Berkshire County is scheduled to close at the end of the current academic year." http://bit.ly/2eeVhr6

JEB! ON ED -- "Jeb Bush Discusses Education Reform, Inequality at GSE," by Jesper W. Ke and Theo C. Lebryk, Harvard Crimson: "Bush turned more serious discussing growing economic inequality in America. He lamented the lack of discussion about how to address both inequality and education." http://bit.ly/2eeZbQO

FLAMING-OH YEAH -- "How Plastic Flamingos Fit Into The Fitchburg Art Museum's Mission To Serve Its Struggling City," by Andrea Shea, WBUR: "Then there's the flock of pink flamingos striding across the museum's front courtyard. Some people assume the iconic plastic lawn ornament hails from the South, but it's actually homegrown in Massachusetts." http://wbur.fm/2eeXgf7

BEWARE -- "Wild turkeys roam in Bedford," by Samantha J. Gross, Boston Globe: "If the wild bird comes your way, grab a broom to shoo them away, town officials say." http://bit.ly/2eeYpD9

DATELINE 16TH WORCESTER **-- "License suspension for Rocky's; harsh words for owner Fresolo," by Cyrus Moulton, Worcester Telegram**: "License commissioners Thursday had harsh words for former state Rep. John P. Fresolo, owner of a Kelley Square bar, suspending the establishment's liquor license for seven days because of customers found once again drinking outside. ... Mr. Fresolo, who is seeking to reclaim his seat in the state Legislature next month, represented the 16th Worcester District for 15 years before resigning in May 2013 following an ethics investigation." http://bit.ly/2dbxgnf

SHUCKS -- "Wellfleet closed to shellfishing; no raw oysters at OysterFest," by Doug Fraser, Cape Cod Times: "State officials have closed all shellfish beds in Wellfleet because of an outbreak of suspected norovirus linked to consumption of shellfish from that area, according to the Department of Public Health. ... This is not good news on the eve of one of the largest seafood festivals in the state, with Wellfleet's OysterFest expecting 15,000 to 20,000 people this weekend." http://bit.ly/2e2ev3p

HAPPY BIRTHDAY -- Sen. **Pat Jehlen** of Somerville; **Pierce Haley** of Selin Haley; **Hilary**

Sargent, consultant at MIT's Media Lab; The Boston Globe's **Victoria McGrane**, a WSJ and Politico alum; **Natasha Silva** of Rep. Stephen Lynch's office (h/t Legistorm).

HAPPY BIRTHWEEKEND -- to Plymouth Sen. **Vinny DeMacedo** and Natick Rep. **David Linsky**, who both celebrate on Sunday.

DID THE HOME TEAM WIN? -- Yes! The Bruins beat the Columbus Blue Jackets 6-3.

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